Filed: June 5, 2001 Atty Docket No.: 6811.US.O1 Preliminary Amendment

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-described amendments add no new matter and request their entry into the record.

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VERSION WITH MARKING TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

- (Amended) A three-dimensional optical method for determining the volume,
 V, and hemoglobin content, HC, of individual red blood cells, said method
 comprising the steps of;
 - a) treating an anti-coagulated whole blood sample with a reagent solution, said solution comprising a sphering agent and a neutrally buffered isotonic saline solution;
 - b) passing red blood cells of said sample in single file [a red blood cell isolated from said sample] through a light beam directed along an optical path at a selected wave length;
 - c) measuring the resultant magnitude of a first forward angle light scatter signal, a second intermediate angle light scatter signal, and a third side-angle light scatter signal from each cell;
 - d) projecting a three-dimensional coordinate of said light scatter signals from each cell onto a precalibrated three dimensional surface containing grid lines of V and HC;
 - e) determining the values of V and HC by the location of each projected intercept onto said three dimensional grid surface.
- 12. (Amended) A three-dimensional optical method for determining the volume, V, and hemoglobin content, HC, of individual red blood cells, said method comprising the steps of;
 - a) treating an anti-coagulated whole blood sample with a reagent solution, said solution comprising a sphering agent and a neutrally buffered isotonic saline solution,;
 - b) passing red blood cells of said sample in single file [a red blood cell isolated from said sample] through a light beam directed along an optical path at a selected wavelength;

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c) measuring the resultant magnitude of one forward angle light scatter signal, one light loss signal, and a third side-angle light scatter signal from each cell;

- d) projecting a three-dimensional coordinate of said light scatter signals from each cell onto a pre-calibrated three dimensional surface containing grid lines of V and HC;
- e) determining the values of V and HC by the location of each projected intercept onto said three dimensional grid surface.